Proposed Maximum Residue Limit PMRL2008-31

# Coumaphos

*(publié aussi en français)*

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On 26 February 2008, Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) published and sought comments on the Proposed Maximum Residue Limit PMRL2008-01 for *Coumaphos*. A comment was received suggesting the need to establish an MRL for beeswax, as discussed in the corresponding Established Maximum Residue Limit EMRL2008-18, *Coumaphos*, published on 29 August 2008 which established MRLs for honey and honeycomb.

The PMRA agreed with the need for a beeswax MRL and consultation on the proposed MRL for coumaphos is being conducted via this document (see Next Steps). The supporting summary residue trial data is attached as Appendix I.

The proposed MRL for coumaphos in Canada in or on food, to be added to those already legally established, is as follows.

**Table 1 Proposed Maximum Residue Limits for Coumaphos**

| Common Name | Residue Definition | Proposed MRL (ppm) | Food Commodity |
|---|---|---|---|
| Coumaphos | *O*-(3-chloro-4-methyl-2-oxo-2*H*-1-benzopyran-7-yl) *O*,*O*-diethyl phosphorothioate, including the oxygen analog *O*-(3-chloro-4-methyl-2-oxo-2*H*-1-benzopyran-7-yl) *O*,*O*-diethyl phosphate | 1.0 | Beeswax |

A complete list of all MRLs established in Canada can be found on the PMRA's MRL webpage.

**International Situation and Trade Implications**

Currently, an American tolerance (listed in 40 CFR Part 180 by pesticide) has not been established for coumaphos in or on beeswax and Codex MRLs[1] have not been established for coumaphos on any commodity (Codex MRLs searchable by pesticide or commodity).

**Next Steps**

Health Canada's PMRA invites the public to submit written comments on the proposed MRL for coumaphos up to 75 days from the date of publication of this document. Please forward your comments to Publications (see the contact information on the cover page of this document). The PMRA will consider all comments received before making a final decision on the proposed MRL for coumaphos and posting an Established Maximum Residue Limit (EMRL) document on the PMRA's website.

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[1] Codex is an international organization under the auspices of the United Nations that develops international food standards, including MRLs.

# Appendix I

Table 1 summarizes the Canadian Checkmite + Beehive Pest Control Strip (*Pest Control Products Act* Registration Number 27147) use pattern for beehives. Additional specific details are available on the product label.

**Table 1 Summary of Canadian Checkmite + Beehive Pest Control Strip Use Pattern**

| Commodity | Method/Timing | Rate, % (w/w) | Total Rate for Varroa Mite, % (w/w) | Harvest Procedures |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Beehive | Impregnated strips placed in the hive for 45 days with honey supers removed. | Each of four colonies treated with one 10 % strip | 1x10 % per colony | Honey supers may be replaced 14 days after strips are removed |

The trials on beehives conducted in the United States in 2000 demonstrated that, when treated at various rates, residues of coumaphos and coumaphos oxygen analog in beeswax were each <0.5 ppm, the limit of quantification (LOQ) of the analytical method. Table 2 summarizes the results of the field trials.

**Table 2 Summary of Residue Data From Commodity Field Trials**

| Commodity | Total Application Rate for Varroa Mites, % (w/w) | Number of Beeswax Samples | Residue Levels (ppm) | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Min. | Max. |
| Coumaphos | | | | |
| Beeswax | Either<br>2 × 5% strips,<br>1 × 7.5 % strip,<br>1 × 10% strip, or<br>2 × 10 % strips | 18 | <0.5 | <0.5 |
| Coumaphos Oxygen Analog | | | | |
| Beeswax | Either<br>2 × 5% strips,<br>1 × 7.5 % strip,<br>1 × 10% strip, or<br>2 × 10 % strips | 18 | <0.5 | <0.5 |

On the basis of the submitted data, a MRL of 1.0 ppm is proposed to cover the combined residues of coumaphos and the oxygen analog in beeswax when Checkmite + Beehive Pest Control Strips are used in accordance with the Canadian use pattern.